

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system including an apparatus which can be connected to a network and having accumulation means for accumulating data, comprising:

5 accumulation area setting means for setting said accumulation means as a plurality of accumulation areas; identification information setting means for setting identification information in each accumulation area set by said accumulation area setting means;

10 storage means for storing data in the accumulation area on the basis of the identification information set by said identification information setting means; management means for managing charge information about the data stored by said storage means; and

15 calculation means for calculating a charge amount for each identification information on the basis of the charge information.

2. The system according to claim 1, wherein the charge information managed by said management means includes information for charging for input, storage, and output of the data.

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3. The system according to claim 1, wherein the accumulation area can be used by a plurality of users.

4. The system according to claim 1, further comprising password setting means for setting a password for processing data stored in each accumulation area for

each accumulation area.

5. An apparatus which can be connected to a network, comprising:

 accumulation means for accumulating data;

5 accumulation area setting means for setting said accumulation means as a plurality of accumulation areas; identification information setting means for setting identification information for each accumulation area set by said accumulation area setting means;

10 storage means for storing data in the accumulation area on the basis of the identification information set by said identification information setting means; and creation means for creating information for charging in each of the accumulation areas.

15 6. The apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising:

 management means for managing charge information about the data stored by said storage means; and

20 calculation means for calculating a charge amount for the data for each identification information, set by said identification information setting means, on the basis of the charge information managed by said management means and the information created by said creation means.

25 7. The apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the accumulation area can be used by a plurality of users.

8. The apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising password setting means for setting a password for processing data stored in each accumulation area for each accumulation area.

5 9. An information processing apparatus which can be connected through a network to an apparatus in which accumulation means is divided into a plurality of accumulation areas and data is stored in each of the accumulation areas, comprising:

10 acquisition means for acquiring information about data stored in each of the accumulation areas; management means for managing charge information about the information; and calculation means for calculating a ^{charge} ~~share~~ amount

15 in each of the accumulation areas on the basis of the information acquired by said acquisition means and the charge information managed by said management means.

10. A control method of controlling a system including an apparatus which can be connected to a network and

20 having accumulation means for accumulating data, comprising:

an accumulation area setting step of setting said accumulation means as a plurality of accumulation areas;

an identification information setting step of

25 setting identification information in each accumulation area set in said accumulation area setting step;

a storage step of storing data in the accumulation area on the basis of the identification information set in said identification information setting step;

5 a management step of managing charge information about the data stored in the storage step; and

a calculation step of calculating a charge amount for each identification information on the basis of the charge information.

11. A control method of controlling an apparatus which 10 can be connected to a network, comprising:

an accumulation area setting step of setting a plurality of accumulation areas for accumulating data;

15 an identification information setting step of setting identification information for each accumulation area set in said accumulation area setting step;

a storage step of storing data in the accumulation area on the basis of the identification information set in said identification information setting step; and

20 a creation step of creating information for charging in each of the accumulation areas.

12. A storage medium storing a program for controlling an apparatus which can be connected to a network, the program executing:

25 an accumulation area setting step of setting a plurality of accumulation areas for accumulating data;

an identification information setting step of

setting identification information for each accumulation area set in said accumulation area setting step;

5 a storage step of storing data in the accumulation area on the basis of the identification information set in said identification information setting step; and

a creation step of creating information for charging in each of the accumulation areas.

13. A control method of controlling an information processing apparatus which can be connected through a network to an apparatus in which accumulation means is divided into a plurality of accumulation areas and data is stored in each of the accumulation areas, comprising:

an acquisition step of acquiring information about data stored in each of the accumulation areas;

15 a management step of managing charge information about the information; and

a calculation step of calculating a ^{charge} ~~share~~ amount in each of the accumulation areas on the basis of the information acquired in said acquisition step and the charge information managed in said management step.

14. A storage medium storing a program for controlling an information processing apparatus which can be connected through a network to an apparatus in which accumulation means is divided into a plurality of accumulation areas and data is stored in each of the accumulation areas, the program executing:

an acquisition step of acquiring information about data stored in each of the accumulation areas;

a management step of managing charge information about the information; and

5 a calculation step of calculating a ^{charge} ~~share~~ amount in each of the accumulation areas on the basis of the information acquired in said acquisition step and the charge information managed in said management step.